

RESOLUTION NO. 04-028

RESOLUTION BY THE CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT) RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BCC) AMEND THE PEOPLE'S TRANSPORTATION PLAN (PTP) TO IMPLEMENT A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM THAT EXPANDS MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT'S GOLDEN PASSPORT PROGRAM FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS TO INCLUDE HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS WHO ARE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED THE STANDARD THRESHOLD APPLIED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE LOW-INCOME, SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION.

WHEREAS, the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying OCITT Executive Director's memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST, that the CITT recommends that the BCC amend the PTP to implement a Demonstration Program that expands Miami-Dade Transit's Golden Passport Program for three (3) years to include honorably discharged veterans, who are Miami-Dade County residents and whose household income does not exceed the standard threshold applied to determine eligibility for the low-income, senior citizen's additional homestead exemption; and analyze and evaluate the Demonstration Program after the second year of the Program to determine fiscal impact and recommend future action, as outlined in the corresponding document in substantially the form attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Office of the
Citizens' Independent
Transportation Trust

Memo

To: Hon. Chair and Members, CITT
From: Hilda M. Fernandez, Executive Director
Date: April 27, 2004
Re: **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION** - Proposed PTP Amendment: Expansion of Golden Passport to certain eligible veterans

As you know, no action on this item was taken by the Project Review or the Budget & Finance Committees pending a meeting with Commissioner Javier Souto, the County Commissioner who has requested this proposed PTP amendment. CITT Board members Miles Moss and LtCol Antonio Colmenares met with Commissioner Souto this morning, in a publicly noticed meeting, to discuss the proposed expansion and possible alternatives.

The following alternatives were offered:

1. Implement the program as a "Demonstration Program."
 - a. Establish a sunset provision; the program would be in effect for only three (3) years; an evaluation of program impact would commence after the end of the second year; further action would be required to continue the program beyond the end of the third year
 - b. Evaluation component permits all parties to better understand the impact of the amendment; limits financial commitment to only three years
2. Further define eligibility requirements to limit program only to "honorably" discharged veterans.
 - a. The type of discharge is clearly listed on federal form "DD-214"
 - b. This limitation might narrow the scope and breadth of the program, in a manner easy to administer
3. Establish the demonstration program as a "renewable" program
 - a. Eligible veterans must renew the card every year
 - b. Must provide continued proof of eligibility (low income) to renew the card for an additional year

Commissioner Souto was agreeable and supportive of these suggestions. As such, the proposed resolution relating to the expansion of the Golden Passport to certain eligible veterans would be amended to incorporate these three (above-referenced) recommendations. It was also recommended that the application process be such to allow the CITT and Miami-Dade Transit to develop useful tracking information on the use of the program.

cc: Carlos F. Bonzon, Ph.D., P.E., Surface Transportation Manager
 Bruce Libhaber, Esquire

hmf/pd

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The foregoing resolution was offered by Miles Moss, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Herminio Lorenzo and upon being put to vote, the vote was as follows:

Hon. John F. Cosgrove, Chairperson	Aye
Marc A. Buoniconti, Vice-Chairperson	Absent
Hon. Michael Abrams	Absent
Harold Braynon, Jr.	Aye
Henry Lee Givens	Aye
Thamara Labrousse	Aye
Hon. Luis Morse	Absent
Hon. James Reeder	Nay
Yolanda Aguilar	Absent
LtCol. Antonio Colmenares	Absent
Franklin Kelly	Aye
Herminio Lorenzo	Aye
Miles Moss	Aye
Theodore Wilde	Nay

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 28 day of April 2004.

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. 

By: 
Executive Director